

## Media Release – The Hon Shelley Payne MLC

### Over \$330,000 invested to boost technology in the regions

Wednesday, 31 May 2023

- Government grants program invests over \$330,000 to boost technology and innovation capabilities for Western Australian Community Resource Network
- \$334,034 awarded to 44 Community Resource Centre projects
- Katanning Hub, Tambellup, Pingrup and Frankland River Community Resource Centres all to receive funding

Rural and remote communities across Western Australia will benefit from the WA Labor State Government funding towards technology projects to improve community services.

More than \$330,000 has been awarded to support 44 Community Resource Centres (CRC) to implement technology and innovation projects across the regions.

Funding will allow the Frankland River CRC to create a Smart Home Hub demonstration centre, while the Katanning Hub CRC will purchase a portable video conferencing system. Tambellup CRC will upgrade their photo kiosk and Pingrup CRC will upgrade their public access computers.

The WA Community Resource Network has more than 100 CRCs across regional and remote areas of the State, with all CRCs eligible to apply under the grant program.

The program provides grants of up to \$10,000 per CRC and is administered by the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development.

#### Comments attributed to Member for the Agricultural Region Hon Shelley Payne MLC

“Regional communities rely on CRCs as a source of information and as a hub to access services”, she said.

“Having appropriate technology at our CRCs is critical to support our regional community members”.

“It is great to see funding for these technological upgrades to help keep our regional towns connected.”

#### Comments attributed to Regional Development Minister Don Punch:

"CRCs are community-focused organisations which provide vital support to rural and remote residents and businesses throughout Western Australia.

"This initiative ensures that CRCs are well equipped with the technology to deliver modern services to people in their communities.

"The variety of projects highlights how community needs differ across areas. The local CRCs know their communities best in terms of making improvements that will deliver the greatest benefits for their stakeholders."

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